

Clerk File No. 310250

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Appointment of John Small as member, Urban Forestry Commission, for a term of confirmation to December 1, 2010.

## The City of Seattle – Legislative Department

Clerk File sponsored by: Richard Conlin

### Committee Action:

Date	Recommendation	Vote
11/24/09	vote to file - 2-0 yes Conlin, McIver	

Related Legislation File: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Introduced and Referred: 11-16-09	To: (committee): Environment, Emergency Management & Utilities
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action: 11-30-09	Disposition: Confirmed

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. RC 11/24/09

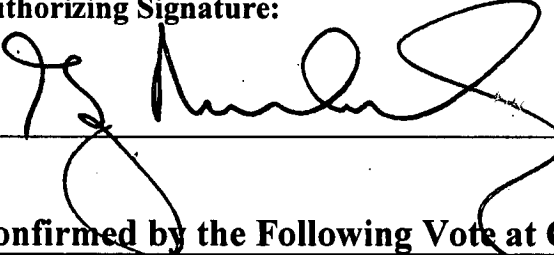

### Full Council Action:

Date	Decision	Vote
11-30-09	Confirmed	8-0

11.12.09  
**Date Filed with City Clerk**

By [Signature]

**City of Seattle  
Notice of Appointment**

<b>Name:</b> <b>John Small</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive Appointment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Legislative Appointment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Agency Appointment</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PDA Council</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PDA Constituency</b>
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Northeast	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98115	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> 206-287-9130
<b>Appointed to:</b> Urban Forestry Commission		<b>Date of Appointment:</b> December 1, 2009
<b>Authority (Ord., Res.):</b> Ordinance #123052		<b>Term of Office: 1 year</b> <b>From: Confirmation</b> <b>To: December 1, 2010</b>
<b>Comments:</b>  New Appointment		
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b> 		<b>Name and Title of Officer Making Appointments:</b> Mayor Greg Nickels
<b>Confirmed by the Following Vote at City Council</b>		
<b>In Favor:</b> 8	<b>Against:</b> 0	<b>Date:</b> 11-30-09
<b>Attested by:</b> 		<b>Title:</b>



### Urban Forestry Commission

9 total members

4 appointed by Mayor, confirmed by City Council

4 appointed by City Council

1 appointed by Commission members

Name	Date Appointed	Term Expires	Term Currently Serving	Appointing Authority	Position
Kirk Prindle		12-1-10	1 <sup>st</sup>	Council	1: Wildlife Biologist
John Small	12-01-09	12-01-10	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor	2: Urban Ecologist
Dr. Gordon Bradley		12-01-12	1 <sup>st</sup>	Council	3: Natural Resource Agency or University Representative
Peg Staeheli	12-01-09	12-01-11	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor	4: Hydrologist or Similar Professional
John Hushagen		12-01-11	1 <sup>st</sup>	Council	5: Arborist
Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura	12-01-09	12-01-11	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor	6: Landscape Architect
Matt Mega		12-01-12	1 <sup>st</sup>	Council	7: NGO Representative
Jeff Reibman	12-1-09	12-01-12	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor	8: Development Community or Utility Representative
To Be Appointed By the Commission				Commission	9: Economist, Financial Analyst, Realtor or Similar Professional

### Diversity Chart

<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>Minority</u>	(1) <u>Asian / Pacific Islander</u>	(2) <u>Black or African American</u>	(3) <u>Hispanic or Latino</u>	(4) <u>Nat. Am / Alaskan Native</u>	(5) <u>Other</u>
6	2	1	1					1





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Fax 206.287.9131

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September 15, 2009

Tracy Morgenstern  
Coordinator, Urban Forestry Commission  
Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment  
P.O. Box 94729  
Seattle, Washington 98124-4649

Re: Letter of Interest in Position 2 of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission

Dear Ms. Morgenstern:

I am pleased to express my sincere interest in filling Position 2 of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission. Since leaving the public sector for consulting several years ago, I have sought exactly this type of opportunity for public service; one that would allow me to apply my passion for restoration to make a significant contribution to the people of Seattle. I believe my unique combination of skills, expertise, experience, and education makes me an outstanding candidate for this seat. I will bring strong leadership to the commission in this formative year to ensure that this commission becomes an integral and effective tool to support the city in achieving the goals outlined in the Seattle Urban Forestry Management Plan.

My key qualifications for this position include:

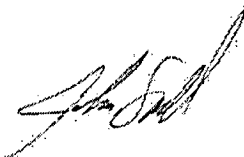
- A Master of Landscape Architecture degree, full membership in the American Society of Landscape Architecture, and Registration as a Landscape Architect in the State of Washington (No. 1044).
- A broad portfolio of successfully designed, permitted, and constructed urban restoration projects, including many in the City of Seattle.
- Significant contribution to several urban restoration plans, including three for the City of Seattle.



- Seattle residency, maintaining over two dozen mature trees on a single family residential lot.
- Forest landownership, with a detailed understanding of forest management science and regulatory requirements.
- Acting as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) company manager. I manage Anchor QEA's GIS sub-discipline including a staff of five full-time analysts and scientists. This position includes administration of a multi-terabyte GIS data server, and more than 65 individual GIS software licenses. I have more than 10 years of experience in GIS methods for assessing landcover, ecologic function, and restoration opportunity. This technical background will provide an indispensable contribution to the Urban Forestry Commission.
- Acting as wetlands sub-discipline manager. I manage Anchor QEA's wetlands sub-discipline including an additional three staff members. This position requires that I stay current on many regulations affecting critical areas management and development around shorelines and sensitive areas. It also requires that I stay current on much of the academic literature on Urban Ecology, Landscape Ecology, vegetation management, and invasive species management.

A broad range of experience and qualifications are important attributes that I will bring to the Urban Forestry Commission. However, the most critical element I can bring to the commission is my enthusiasm and sincere desire to help our city meet the ambitious and realistic goals set forth in the Seattle Urban Forestry Management Plan. I look forward to discussing this opportunity with you more in the near future.

Sincerely,



John Small  
Anchor QEA, LLC

Attachments: Resume for John W. Small, ASLA

# JOHN SMALL, ASLA

Ecological Restoration, Landscape Architecture, GIS, Wetland Science, Construction Management

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Anchor QEA, Managing Landscape Architect, 2001 to Present

King County Water and Land Resources Division, Engineer I, 1998 to 2001

## EDUCATION

M.L.A., Landscape Architecture, 2000, University of Washington

B.A., Geology, 1990, Whitman College

## PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION AND ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Registered Landscape Architect, Washington (License No. 1044)

Member: American Society of Landscape Architects

Member: Society for Ecological Restoration

Member: Society of Wetland Scientists

Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead, 2005, 2008

## EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Mr. Small has 10 years of experience as a habitat restoration project manager with experience in landscape architecture, ecological restoration, and wetland sciences. His background in ecology, geology, design, and construction management supports his understanding of the complex relationship between the built environment and natural systems. Most of his work has dealt with the processes and patterns across the aquatic-riparian-upland gradient. He has worked in all phases of the ecological restoration process including prioritization, planning, design, permitting, and construction management. His experience includes the development of numerous restoration plans and projects in the City of Seattle and the surrounding Puget Sound ecoregion. Mr. Small also has extensive experience in stream, nearshore, and riparian forest assessment and restoration as well as stream bank bio-stabilization design and construction. He has experience in park planning and design and in developing construction documents for projects with a high level of economic and ecologic sustainability. In addition to his work on numerous wetland, shoreline, and forest restoration projects, he has developed landscape and planting plans for stormwater management ponds and floodplain forest restoration projects.

## REPRESENTATIVE PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### *Representative Restoration Design Experience*

#### **Washington Park Arboretum Shoreline Trail, Seattle, WA**

This project involved replacing a bridge and creating new trails and viewpoints, as well as several thousand feet of shoreline restoration and wetland rehabilitation at this prestigious arboretum on the shores of Lake Washington. Mr. Small was heavily involved in developing designs and construction documents and in managing the construction of this project. The City of Seattle

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considers the site a "wetland of exceptional significance" and justifiably scrutinized the design and construction of the project. The design employs a variety of bank stabilization techniques that rely on precise grading and the restoration of native shoreline plant communities rather than shoreline armor to stop erosion. The project also provides Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible trails and several opportunities for access to the shoreline by foot or by boat. Another goal of the project and challenge of construction was to protect all of the valuable trees of the arboretum's collection at the site. Mr. Small acted as both the owner's representative and as a special inspector of temporary and permanent erosion control for the City of Seattle's Department of Planning and Development. Mr. Small monitored the contractor's daily operations for compliance with all contract specifications and permit conditions.

### **Martha Washington Park, Seattle, WA**

Mr. Small worked on the design, permitting, and construction management of this habitat restoration project on Lake Washington. The project involved the removal of several hundred feet of rock bulkhead and regading of the shoreline to create a restored gravel beach and riparian shrub-sapling community. The project promoted access to the water with informal steps through the plantings. These steps were added during construction to capitalize on the dramatic views of Mount Rainier in the distance. The project was constructed by Seattle Conservation Corps crews from permit drawings and required substantial field direction to ensure success. The project has been extremely successful and was well received by neighbors—some of whom live only yards from the project site.

### **Rainier Beach Lake Park Shoreline Restoration, Seattle, WA**

Mr. Small managed the construction of this project, which included removal of a parking lot and underlying fill to restore the historic gravel beach. The project site location, adjacent to existing gravel beaches and close to the mouth of the Cedar River, makes this an important project in the context of regional salmon restoration efforts.

The project success relied on careful and accurate grading of the beach and slopes above to provide stability and promote the success of the native species chosen for the project. Mr. Small oversaw installation of sheetpile and riprap bulkheads, concrete structures, and asphalt paving. He also closely monitored the excavation, which included removal of some unforeseen contaminated soils. Mr. Small also supervised and inspected the restoration and bio-stabilization of the bank above the beach. The bank was planted with a variety of plant species native to the Pacific Northwest. Subsequent monitoring has shown this project to be extremely successful in providing habitat for fish and wildlife and subsequent phases of riparian forest restoration are currently under construction immediately to the south of the original project.

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### **Magnuson Park Beach Renourishment, Seattle, WA**

Mr. Small worked on the design, permitting, and construction management of this beach restoration project on Lake Washington. The project involved removing asphalt and other debris from the shoreline and water and developing a stable beach profile. In areas where existing slopes were too steep to sustain a beach, native vegetation was used to reduce erosion. The site is exposed to both wind waves and boat-generated waves that carry beach sediment northward. The project was designed and built so that beach material can be placed at the south end of the project to naturally drift northward. The project was constructed by Seattle Conservation Corps crews from permit drawings and required substantial field direction and crew training from Mr. Small to ensure success.

### **Terminal 25/30 Riparian Vegetation Pilot Project, Seattle, WA**

Mr. Small has played a key role in the design and construction of a pilot project to enhance the riparian vegetation within a heavily industrialized area on the East Channel of the Duwamish River. As part of a larger project to redevelop a shipping container terminal, Anchor QEA has developed techniques to improve riparian habitat at the shoreline without compromising the stability of the shoreline that is frequently exposed to high energy forces from wind, waves, and boat traffic. The trees and shrubs were installed as part of the shoreline armoring and now will provide shade and organic inputs in an area that was previously bare riprap. Anchor QEA and the Port of Seattle are now considering opportunities to use this successful pilot project as a template for future port projects in the region.

Mr. Small was also involved in a related shoreline public access mitigation project. The mitigation was required as part of the Shoreline Permit and S. Forest Street vacation required as part of the Port of Seattle's Terminal 25/30 Bridge project on the East Waterway. Mr. Small led the development of the 30 and 60 percent design plans and estimates. The South Park Shoreline Public Access Site includes historical elements in the form of drawbridge gears (the project site was historically a drawbridge landing), access to the water for small boats (kayaks and canoes), and shoreline fish and wildlife habitat enhancement. Through negotiations with an adjacent landowner, Seattle Public Utilities, the area of the riparian forest restoration planted along the lower Duwamish was significantly enlarged.

### **Bainbridge Island Shoreline Restoration Projects, WA**

Mr. Small is currently managing four shoreline restoration projects for the City of Bainbridge Island. All four projects are focused on habitat restoration along City-owned shorelines that have been degraded by past historical uses. The projects include investigation of site contamination and development of restoration designs that ensure environmental protection from any remnant contamination. Restoration efforts are focused on the marine shoreline and include saltmarsh, beach, coastal bluff, and riparian forest restoration. All four projects are being designed to mimic sustainable coastal geomorphology and to be highly sustainable with low maintenance over time.

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The projects also require a high degree of communication and collaboration with the public and project stakeholders group, which is composed of federal, state, tribal, and local representatives.

### **Seahurst Park Master Plan, Burien, WA**

Mr. Small played a key role in the development of the master plan for this 152-acre park with almost 1 mile of Puget Sound waterfront. The Seahurst Master Plan was adopted by unanimous vote of the Burien City Council and the first phase was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Small led studies of potential stream and wetland impacts and wrote the mitigation plan for the first phase of construction. He led the design of the revegetation of the site shoreline forests, backshore and existing wetlands, and the diversion of a small stream to replace an undersized culvert with a bottomless concrete culvert. The project also included significant upgrades to park facilities including a new restroom, improvements to an existing picnic shelter, new picnic areas, and new beach access points. Mr. Small managed the upland rehabilitation from design and permitting through construction management support including monitoring of temporary and permanent erosion controls that were critical for this project located on Puget Sound.

### ***Representative Restoration Planning Experience***

#### **City of Seattle Shoreline Master Program Update, WA**

Mr. Small is the Anchor QEA project manager assisting the City of Seattle in the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update process. Mr. Small managed the development of the Shoreline Characterization Report, which identifies the current level of impairment of Seattle's shoreline under Shoreline Management Act jurisdiction. This analysis uses a GIS-based modeling application that the Anchor QEA team worked to adapt for use in Seattle. Mr. Small is currently leading the effort to identify restoration opportunities that meet the goals of the SMP and prioritize those opportunities in a restoration plan. The plan also identifies discrete metrics that will be used to measure the City's progress in reducing impairment of the shoreline.

#### **Seattle Public Utilities, WRIA 9 Nearshore Habitat Prioritization, WA**

Mr. Small led the field investigation and was heavily involved in this effort to prioritize habitat restoration and preservation opportunities within the nearshore of WRIA 9, including much of the marine shoreline of Seattle. The project area encompassed nearly 100 shoreline miles and extends north from Federal Way to the King County border, including Vashon and Maury Islands. The assessment identified priority conservation, rehabilitation, and restoration opportunities in the project area. These priority area recommendations will be included in future versions of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan. ArcGIS models of nearshore habitat function were developed by Mr. Small with input and review by Anchor QEA and WRIA 9 technical staff. Model results were analyzed at a variety of scales to evaluate the levels of existing habitat function and the potential for habitat restoration. The models focused on key ecological

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functions that estuarine and nearshore marine habitats provide to juvenile salmonids including availability of prey resources, predator refuge, physiological refuge for acclimation to the marine environment, and migration corridors. In this way, the model provided a habitat-based interpretation of suitability for juvenile salmonids, the target species group. The model was a useful tool to provide reach level and landscape scale interpretations of habitat quality. Mr. Small led the substantial field data collection, GIS data creation (digitization), and data quality evaluation.

### **Mason County Nearshore Habitat Assessments, WA**

Mr. Small designed and built a GIS specifically for this multi-phased project, using data from dozens of sources. The GIS was used to evaluate changes from historic conditions, and it was ground truthed with an extensive field effort. Analyses of the data were done using a model of habitat functions for juvenile salmon. These fish are particularly vulnerable as they leave freshwater streams and enter the marine nearshore environment. Outputs of the model were used to make recommendations regarding the best sites for restoration and conservation and the most important goals for restoration at each site. Building on our initial success, Anchor QEA carried out a second phase that included more attention to coastal processes, such as erosion and sediment transportation, and the incorporation of acoustically collected subtidal data.

### **Northwest Straits Nearshore Habitat Inventory, WA**

Anchor QEA was asked by the Northwest Straits Commission to compile the available GIS data sets for the nearshore environment of all seven counties served by the commission. Mr. Small built a portable GIS (CD-based) that was distributed to the Marine Resource Committee for each county. He also worked with Anchor QEA's fish biologists and the Northwest Straits Commission's Technical Advisory Committee to develop a series of species-specific models to prioritize restoration and conservation sites. This series included separate models for the habitat of nearshore species of rockfish, forage fish spawning habitat, and juvenile salmon migration corridors. Anchor QEA also provided a searchable metadata database to the client to help increase the utility of the data.

### **Lower Green River Habitat Assessment, King County WA**

Mr. Small was the principal investigator of the Baseline Habitat Survey for the Lower Green River. He conducted a kayak based field investigation of instream and adjacent riparian habitat conditions in the mainstem Lower Green River (river mile 32.1 to 5.7). This habitat survey provided baseline data to support salmon recovery efforts throughout the Green River watershed. Data on 40 parameters were collected from the water at 300-meter intervals, as well as additional data at the location of specific habitat features of interest (e.g., pools and gravel storage areas) geolocated with a DGPS. These data were presented in a report that included detailed GIS files and figures that used aerial photographs as a background to allow readers to precisely interpret habitat conditions in specific reaches of interest.

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### *Selected Presentations and Publications*

Small, John. Riparian Corridor Rapid Assessment Technique for Large Lowland Rivers of the Puget Sound Region, University of Washington, 2000. and presented at Society of Ecological Restoration Northwest 2001 and ESRI Users Conference 2001.

Schadt, Tom, and John Small. Nearshore Habitat Inventory and Evaluation. Washington Public Ports Association Environmental Conference. 2001.

Small, John, Paul Schlenger, Peter Hummel, and Elizabeth Appy. A Geographic Information Based Decision Support System for Identifying Priority Nearshore Conservation and Restoration Areas. Toward Ecosystem-Based Management: Breaching Down the Barriers in the Columbia River Basin and Beyond. Western Division - American Fisheries Society et al. 2002

Timm, R. K., R. C. Wissmar, J. W. Small, T. M. Leschine, and G. Lucchetti. 2004. Multi-scale prioritization of riparian habitats for restoration and preservation. *Environmental Management* 33:151-161.

Stoops, Kevin, and John Small. Seattle Shoreline Park Inventory: A Successful Process for Assessing Salmon Habitat Restoration Priorities and Feasibility in the Urban Environment. Society of Ecological Restoration Northwest 2005

Small, John, Paul Schlenger, Ali Wick, Julie Hall, and Kollin Higgins. Marine Nearshore Habitat Priorities in the Green-Duwamish Watershed in Central Puget Sound. Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference 2007.



Gregory J. Nickels  
Mayor of Seattle

FILED  
CITY OF SEATTLE

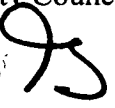
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CITY CLERK

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 5, 2009

**TO:** The Honorable Richard Conlin  
President, Seattle City Council

**FROM:** Mayor Greg Nickels 

**SUBJECT:** Appointments to Urban Forestry Commission

I am happy to forward to the City Council the following appointment(s) to the Urban Forestry Commission for staggered one- to three-year terms:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>	<u>Position</u>
John Small	12/1/2010	2: Urban Ecologist
Peg Staeheli	12/1/2011	4: Hydrologist or Similar Professional
Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura	12/1/2011	6: Landscape Architect
Jeff Reibman	12/1/2012	8: Development Community or Utility Representative

The 9-member Urban Forestry Commission, established by Ordinance 123052, advises the Mayor and City Council on policies, plans, and regulations related to the protection, management, and conservation of trees in Seattle.

The Commission is composed of a wildlife biologist, urban ecologist, natural resource agency or university representative, hydrologist, arborist, landscape architect, non-profit or non-governmental organization representative, development community or non-City utility representative, and an economist, financial analyst or realtor. Odd numbered positions 1-7 are appointed by the City Council and even numbered positions 2-8 are appointed by the Mayor with the ninth position appointed by majority vote of the eight appointed members. All appointments are subject to City Council confirmation.



Attached to this memorandum is the current membership roster of the Urban Forestry Commission including the new appointees. The bios for all new appointees are as follows:

**Position 2: Urban Ecologist**

**John Small** has experience in urban ecology and restoration design, project management and construction. He is also a landscape architect, wetland scientist and has expertise in using GIS to assess land cover. Mr. Small's extensive technical background and experience both in consulting and the public sector position him well to contribute to the Commission. His GIS background would be especially useful in helping the Commission understand and make effective use of our recent satellite study of tree canopy as both a planning and outreach tool.

**Position 4: Hydrologist or Similar Professional**

**Peg Stacheli** is a Principal at SvR Design and has a background in civil engineering and landscape architecture and has worked on several natural drainage projects including High Point. She brings a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of urban infrastructure from storm water to trees to pedestrian space and the challenges and opportunities inherent therein. Her experience in inventorying, assessing and preserving trees on many constructed projects would offer the Commission the perspective of what happens between planning and design and construction (e.g. where good tree preservation intentions go wrong) and how regulations work and don't on the ground.

**Position 6: Landscape Architect**

**Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura** is a landscape architect who has also managed residential and office development projects. She has served as the project manager of several LEED certified projects and worked on the design of park, courtyard, and streetscape projects. She has worked internationally and served on the Seattle Design Review Board, Northwest District. Ms. Stacishin-Moura brings the perspective of a landscape architect with urban planning and development experience.

**Position 8: Development Community or Utility Industry Representative**

**Jeff Reibman** is an architect and LEED accredited professional working on residential development in the general market and senior housing projects. Through the Congress of Residential Architects, he is participating in the review of Seattle's multi-family code. Mr. Reibman brings residential development experience and knowledge of Seattle's land use code.

**Attachments**

cc: Tracy Morgenstern, Office of Sustainability & Environment  
Wayne Barnett, Executive Director, Ethics and Elections Commission  
Kristine Kertson, Administrator, Boards and Commissions, Mayor's Office

